Pani Satyagraha

423. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the *Pani Satyagraha* started on 30th of January coinciding the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, demanding that green belts and water bodies across the country be protected by notifying them as Water Sanctuaries; and

(b) if so, whether Government are moving in that direction to ensure sustainable water supply for *aam aadmi*?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources has not received any information from any source about *Pani Satyagraha* demanding that green belts and water bodies across the country be protected by notifying them as Water Sanctuaries.

(b) Does not arise.

Linking of Mahanadi with Brahmani River

424. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to link Mahanadi with Brahmani in Orissa to control floods in the coastal districts of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of Central help that is proposed to be extended to the States in the execution of this gigantic task?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) There is no proposal of National Water Development Agency (NWDA) to link Mahanadi with Brahmani in Orissa. However, proposed Subernarekha - Mahanadi link by NWDA crosses Brahmani river, but there is no proposal to withdraw the water from or to supplement the water of Brahmani river through this link.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Based on various studies conducted, NWDA under National Perspective Plans (NPP) has identified 30 links (16 Peninsular and 14 Himalayan) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). NWDA has prepared FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links under Himalayan Component (Indian Portion). Preparation of

Detailed Project Report (DPR) for one priority link *viz.* Ken-Betwa link has been taken up by NWDA after signing of a tripartite agreement between the Government of India and concerned States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 25.08.2005. Implementation of inter basin water transfer proposals depends upon consensus and cooperation of the concerned states. No interlinking project under NPP is under implementation and the stage has not come for the financial planning of interlinking of Rivers (ILR) project.

Diversion of river water by China

†425. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India had offered to constitute a joint team to China after appearing of news-item with regard to Chinese efforts for diverting water of Brahmaputra river, which is flowing towards India into its territory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) time when this proposal had been prepared at first;

(d) whether the proposal has been implemented so far; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) There have been reports about China undertaking projects to divert waters of Brahmaputra river. Government of India has taken up this issue with the Chinese side several times including during the visit of the Hon'ble President of China to India in November 2006. The joint declaration issued during the visit *inter-alia* states, "The two sides will set up an expert-level machanism to discuss interaction and cooperation on the provision of flood season hydrological data emergency management and other issues regarding trans-border rivers as agreed between them."

(d) and (e) In pursuance of the above, both the sides have constituted their expert groups.

Report regarding old dams

†426. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) total number of dams which are hundred years or more than hundred years old at present in the country;

(b) the number of reports the Central Water Commission has received from States during last two years regarding the status of dams alongwith details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.